

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



1
Ag84Po
Cap. 3

Regulations Governing the Occupancy and Use of Developed Recreation Sites on National Forests

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service / PA-1199



REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE OCCUPANCY AND USE OF DEVELOPED RECREATION SITES ON NATIONAL FORESTS

The Secretary of Agriculture's regulations (36 CFR 261) provide in part for regulating the occupancy and use of developed recreation sites. A violation of these regulations is subject to a penalty of not more than \$500 or 6 months imprisonment, or both.

These regulations have been made by the Secretary of Agriculture to increase the overall enjoyment of recreation in the National Forests. They are common-sense rules meant to control actions that cause damage to natural resources and facilities, as well as actions that cause unreasonable disturbance for National Forest visitors. Observance of these rules will make your visit and the visits of others more pleasant and enjoyable.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions— which appear in 36 CFR 261.2— apply to all regulations quoted in this publication.

“Campfire” means a fire, not within any building, mobile home, or living accommodation mounted on a motor vehicle, which is used for cooking, personal warmth, lighting, ceremonial, or esthetic purposes. “Fire” includes campfire.

“Camping” means the temporary use of National Forest System lands for the purpose of overnight occupancy without a permanently fixed structure.

“Camping equipment” means the personal property used in or suitable for camping, and includes any vehicle used for transport and all personal property in possession of a person camping.

“Developed recreation site” means an area which has been improved or developed for recreation.

“Forest development road” means a road wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving a part of the National Forest System and which has been included in the Forest Development Road System Plan.

“Forest development trail” means a trail wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving a part of the National Forest System and which has been included in the Forest Development Trail System Plan.

“Forest officer” means an employee of the Forest Service.

“Person” means natural person, corporation, company, partnership, trust, firm, or association of persons.

“Permission” means oral authorization by a forest officer.

“Permit” means authorization in writing by a forest officer.

“State law” means the law of any State in whose exterior boundaries an act or omission occurs regardless of whether State law is otherwise applicable.

“Stove fire” means a campfire built inside an enclosed stove or grill, a portable brazier, or a pressurized liquid or gas stove, including a space-heating device.

PROHIBITED ACTS

The following represents a partial listing of acts prohibited on recreation sites on the National Forests. All of the regulations are published in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations and copies of the same are on file at all Forest Supervisor and District Ranger Offices.

SANITATION

- *Failing to dispose of all garbage, including any paper, can, bottle, sewage, waste water or material, or rubbish either by removal from the site or area, or by depositing it into receptacles or at places provided for such purposes. (261.11d)*

- *Cleaning or washing any personal property, fish, animal, or food at a hydrant or at a water faucet not provided for that purpose. (261.14c)*

- *Placing in or near a stream, lake, or other water any substance which does or may pollute a stream, lake, or other water. (261.11c)*

- *Depositing in any toilet, toilet vault, or plumbing fixture, any bottle, can, cloth, rag, metal, wood, stone, flammable liquid, or other substance which could damage or interfere with the operation or maintenance of the fixture. (261.11a)*

- *Depositing any body waste except into receptacles provided for that purpose. (261.14q)*

- *Dumping or leaving in a refuse container, dump, or similar facility, refuse, debris, or litter brought as such from private property or from land occupied under permit. (261.11e)*

•Possessing or leaving refuse, debris, or litter in an exposed or unsanitary condition. (261.11b)

OPERATION OF VEHICLES

•Operating or parking a motor vehicle or trailer except in places developed for this purpose. (261.14m)

•Operating a bicycle, motorbike, or motorcycle on a trailer unless designated for this use. (261.14n)

•Operating a motorbike, motorcycle, or other motor vehicle for any purpose other than entering or leaving the site. (261.14o)

•Placing a vehicle or other object in such a manner that it is an impediment or hazard to the safety or convenience of any person. (261.10f)

•Failing to stop a vehicle when directed to do so by a forest officer. (261.12c)

•Blocking, restricting, or otherwise interfering with the use of a road, trail, or gate. (261.12e)

BUILDING FIRES

•Building, attending, maintaining, or using a fire outside of a fire ring provided by the Forest Service for such purpose or outside of a stove, grill or fireplace. (261.14b)

•Leaving a fire without completely extinguishing it. (261.5d)

CAMPING

•Occupying between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. a place designated for day use only. (261.14e).

•Failing to remove all camping equipment or personal property when vacating the area or site. (261.14f)

•Placing, maintaining, or using camping equipment except in a place specifically designated or provided for such equipment. (261.14g)

•Without permission, failing to have at least one person occupy a camping area during the first night after camping equipment has been set up. (261.14h)

•Leaving camping equipment unattended for more than 24 hours without permission. (261.14i)

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

- *Cutting, killing, destroying, girdling, chipping, chopping, boxing, injuring, or otherwise damaging or removing, any timber, tree or other forest product, except as authorized by permit, timber sale contract, Federal law or regulation. (261.6a)*

- *Mutilating, defacing, removing, disturbing, injuring or destroying any natural feature or any property of the United States. (261.9a)*

PUBLIC BEHAVIOR

- *Engaging in fighting, or in threatening or abusive behavior. (261.4a)*

- *Inciting or participating in a riot. (261.4b)*

- *Making unreasonable noise. (261.4c)*

PETS AND ANIMALS

- *Bringing in or possessing an animal, other than a seeing eye dog, unless it is crated, caged, or upon a leash not longer than six feet, or otherwise under physical restrictive control. (261.14j)*

- *Bringing in or possessing in a swimming area an animal, other than a seeing eye dog. (261.14k)*

- *Bringing in or possessing a saddle, pack, or draft animal, except as authorized by a sign. (261.14l)*

BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

- *Selling or offering for sale any merchandise, conducting any kind of business enterprise, or performing any kind of work unless authorized by Federal law, regulation, or permit. (261.10c)*

- *Distributing any handbill, circular, paper, or notice without a permit. (261.14p)*

- *Posting, placing, or erecting any paper, notice, advertising material, sign, or similar matter without a permit (261.10g)*

AUDIO DEVICES

•*Operating or using in or near a campsite, developed recreation site, or over an adjacent body of water without a permit, any device which produces noise, such as a radio, television, musical instrument, motor or engine in such a manner and at such a time so as to unreasonably disturb any person (261.10h)*

•*Operating or using a public address system, whether fixed, portable, or vehicle mounted, in or near a campsite, developed recreation site, or over an adjacent body of water without a permit. (261.10i)*

FIREWORKS AND FIREARMS

•*Discharging or igniting a firecracker, rocket or other firework, or explosive. (261.14d)*

•*Discharging a firearm or any other implement capable of taking human life, causing injury, or damaging property: (1) In or within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site or occupied area, or (2) across or on a Forest Development road or a body of water adjacent thereto whereby any person or property is exposed to injury or damage as a result of such discharge. (261.10d)*

INTERFERING WITH FOREST OFFICER

•*Threatening, resisting, intimidating, or interfering with any forest officer engaged in or on account of the performance of his official duties in the protection, improvement, or administration of the National Forest System. (261.3)*

OTHER PROHIBITED ACTS

•*Constructing, placing, or maintaining any kind of road, trail, structure, fence, enclosure, communication equipment, or other improvement without a permit. (261.10a)*

•*Occupying any portion of the site for other than recreation purposes. (261.14a)*

•*Conducting, demonstrating, or participating in a public meeting, assembly, or special event, except as authorized by permit. (261.10j)*

ABANDONED PERSONAL PROPERTY

•*Abandoning a vehicle, animal or personal property. (261.10e)*

Additional rules may be established at individual developed sites where determined necessary by the Regional Forester or Forest Supervisor.

Such rules will be established by an order that is posted in such locations and manner as to reasonably bring the prohibition to the attention of the public.





September 1977

This publication supersedes PA-920 , "Regulations Governing the Occupancy and Use of National Forest Recreation Sites and Areas."